



State Capitol | Lansing, Michigan 48913
PH (517) 373.3447 | FAX (517) 373.5849
www.senate.michigan.gov/gop/senator/birkholz/

For Immediate Release
March 10, 2004

Contact: Amanda Price
(517) 373-3447

Encouraging job growth, Senate introduces resolution opposing overly stringent state standards

Lansing – State Sen. Patty Birkholz, R-Saugatuck Twp., announced the introduction of Senate Resolution 224 on Wednesday in opposition to any new or revised administrative rules more stringent than federal policies that impede economic development and job creation.

“Our goal is to encourage new business in Michigan and create as many jobs as possible,” Birkholz said. “Creating more stringent rules only makes things harder and would deter businesses from opening in Michigan. They would be more inclined to head to a state with fewer regulations.”

SR 224 is designed to prevent job losses. Companies looking to expand or relocate may lose interest in Michigan because of overly stringent standards.

The resolution states that policies can impact the development of the economy and job creation. It also points out that it is imperative every regulation be developed in the real-world context of our state’s competition for economic development and jobs.

SR 224 is part of the second phase of JOBS – “Job Opportunities for Business Success,” a broad-ranging Republican call to action on Michigan’s job creation front. JOBS II picks up where JOBS left off by creating new job opportunities, saving existing jobs, and promoting a friendlier and healthier business climate in Michigan.

Other key pieces of the JOBS II plan include:

- Providing tax relief to businesses that create new jobs;
- Eliminating taxation of federal and state research funds;

(More)

- Providing broadband on Main Street by expanding Michigan's Broadband Authority to allow for funding of high-speed Internet infrastructure;
- Eliminating red-tape nightmares by creating a "bureaucracy buster team" to recommend ways to remove burdensome regulations for businesses;
- Creating a personal property tax exemption for the first \$10,000 of a business' personal property value;
- Keeping business bankruptcy assets in Michigan by providing an incentive for companies to participate in the bankruptcy proceedings of other in-state companies;
- Simplifying the filing of Michigan Single Business Tax forms;
- Expanding the use of private labs for state business; and
- Streamlining the U.S.-Canadian border issues by calling on the governor to create a Michigan-Ontario Border Commission to standardize border-related rules and regulations.

"Michigan needs to do all it can to bring business to the state," Birkholz said. "I'm confident this resolution will help us do that."

Additional components of the JOBS II plan are expected to be introduced in the coming weeks.

###